

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10

OMB-01 SAB-01 /070 W

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R 110729Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5185

INFO DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 4450

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF

SUBJ: OBSERVATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES ON GOLAN HEIGHTS

REF: STATE 265065

1. DURING VISIT TO KUNEITRA OCT 9, POLOFF HAD CHANCE TO OBSERVE EVIDENCE OF SYRIAN RECONSTRUCTION OF GOLAN REGION OUTSIDE IMMEDIATE AREA OF KUNEITRA. NEW POWER LINES RAN ALONG SIDE ROAD ALMOST UP TO JEBE, LOCATED EASTERN EDGE OF LINE B, BUT DID NOT PROCEED INTO DISENGAGEMENT ZONE ITSELF. NON-INSULATED COPPER WIRING STRUNG ON OLD TELEPHONE POLES FOLLOWED SAME TRACK. IN JEBE ITSELF, OBSERVED NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES AND OTHER BUILDINGS PLUS CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL NEAR ROAD, INDICATING THAT ON-GOING BUILDING PROCESS HAS NOT CEASED AS RESULT OF RECENT TENSION IN REGION (JEBE IS FEW KILOMETERS SOUTH OF JUBBATA AL-KHASHAB WHERE TWO FARMERS KILLED IN OCTOBER).

2. WHILE IN KUNEITRA VISITED CHECKPOINT ON ROAD INTO ISRAELI-OCCUPIED PORTION OF GOLAN,
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POLOFF TALKED WITH TWO ENGLISH-SPEAKING LIEUTENANTS

ON STAFF OF S.S.A.D. BRIG. TAYYARA. DURING CONVERSATION
ONE OF THEM MENTIONED THAT KUNEITRA ITSELF HAD BEEN
CLEARED OF MINES BUT THAT SYRIAN CONTROLLED AREA AROUND IT
STILL CONSIDERED LIVE MINEFIELD. HE ALSO STATED THAT ISRAELI
PLANES ALMOST DAILY OVERFLEW DISENGAGEMENT LINE AND OFTEN
CROSSED INTO SYRIAN ZONE.

3. EMBASSY WILL REPLY MORE FULLY TO STATE 265065 WHEN
DATT RETURNS TO POST LATER THIS WEEK.
PELLETREAU

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NNN

Message Attributes

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